

# 2019

## SURVEY OF SERVICES TO HOMELESS PERSONS IN CALVERT COUNTY

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## SUMMARY

Every year, the Calvert County Department of Community Resources conducts a survey of services provided to homeless persons in the County. This survey is compiled with the cooperation of agencies within the County Homeless Services Board. The results of the 2019 survey follow.

This survey does not try to provide an accurate count of homeless persons in Calvert County. That is not feasible because homeless persons cannot be polled by conventional means. Homeless persons generally do not have a street address, landline telephones or personal computers, and often they prefer to remain anonymous, whether they move in temporarily with relatives or live in cars, under bridges, in barns or in the woods. But by tabulating the services provided by key local agencies, we can obtain approximate measure of the homelessness problem over the course of a given year.

Six agencies provided data for the 2019 survey: Calvert County Department of Social Services (DSS), Lifestyles of Southern Maryland, Inc., Project ECHO, Safe Harbor, Safe Nights of Calvert County, and Southern Maryland Community Network (SMCN).

Results of the survey show that the number of unduplicated households receiving services increased from 373 in 2018 to 451 in 2019. The term “unduplicated” means a household was counted only once regardless of how many times it was served by the six agencies. For instance, most families will visit DSS first for a referral and assistance, and then go to Project ECHO and SMCN for specialized assistance and services. That client could have multiple unique visits for services over a year, but is counted one time as a household served. The individual visits made are counted separately.

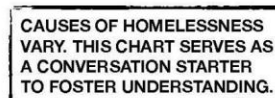
The total number of individual visits made to a point-of-service increased—from 469 in 2018 to 525 in 2019. This number includes the many families who received services from more than one agency throughout the year. A possible cause for this increase is that in 2018, DSS began to process referrals from the Continuum of Care, which has resulted in more accurate reporting. These individuals may have previously gone uncounted, as they note their previous address as Calvert County, but may be receiving services elsewhere in the tri-county area. Additionally, Lifestyles, participating in the survey for the first time in 2019, added 16 new households to the count.

The homeless population served came mainly from Calvert County. Of the households served, 412 households (91%) cited Calvert County as their last place of residence, an increase of 8% from 2018. Households reporting a last address in Southern Maryland (Calvert, Charles, or St. Mary’s Counties) comprised approximately 97% of the population served.

Household size ranged from one to six persons in 2019. Counting heads of households (the family member that provided information during the intake process) plus their dependents (usually children), a total of 1032 persons received homeless services in 2019. Of the heads of households who revealed their marital status, 323 were single, 43 married, 34 divorced, 32 separated, and 11 widowed.

The main reasons given for homelessness were: alcohol and drugs, family eviction, mental illness,

This data is self-reported by individuals at the time of service. Due to the transient nature of this population, the data is in flux. Someone may self-report different previous addresses, different marital statuses, and different reasons for homelessness to different agencies. Over a year, a client may move, experience loss in family size, or a change in marital status. Staff work to create as whole of a picture with data as possible, but there will always be some outliers due to the transient nature of this population and the changes in their life situation over the course of a year.



## How Homelessness Happens...

**HOMELESSNESS IMPACTS  
MILLIONS OF BABIES,  
TODDLERS, CHILDREN,  
YOUTH, AND ADULTS.**

# 2019

## SURVEY OF SERVICES TO HOMELESS PERSONS IN CALVERT COUNTY

All figures are totals for the Calendar Year 2019, January 1 through December 31.

AGENCY SURVEYED	<b>2019</b> <b>UNDUPLICATED</b> HOUSEHOLDS SERVED PER AGENCY	TOTAL VISITS		<b>2019</b> <small>UNDUPLICATED</small> DEPENDENTS SERVED PER AGENCY	2018 <b>UNDUPLICATED</b> HOUSEHOLDS SERVED
		<b>2019</b>	2018		
Project ECHO	<b>113</b>	113	131	28	<b>131</b>
Safe Harbor	<b>29</b>	31	36	35	<b>36</b>
Safe Nights of Calvert County	<b>32</b>	32	37	4	<b>24</b>
Southern Maryland Community Network	<b>40</b>	70	63	4	<b>38</b>
Department of Social Services	<b>247</b>	263	202	197	<b>144</b>
Lifestyles	<b>16</b>	16	No data	36	No data
<b>COUNTY-WIDE TOTALS</b>	<b>451</b> (no duplicates across agencies)	525	469	304 Agency Total <b>281 Final Total</b> (no duplicates across agencies)	<b>373</b>

Notes: A household is a family unit. In 2019, the number of persons in the family units served ranged from one to six persons. In the unduplicated figures, a household is counted once, regardless of how many times services were received. For instance, most families will visit DSS first for a referral and assistance, and then go to another agency for specialized assistance and services. That client could have multiple unique visits for services over a year, but is counted one time as a household served. The individual visits made are counted separately. In the county-wide total section households are only counted once, even if they visit more than one agency multiple times in a year.

## 2019 CALVERT COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SURVEY

GENDER of HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
Female	256
Male	194
Unknown/No Answer	1

RACE / ETHNICITY of HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
African American	151
Asian	1
Caucasian	278
Hispanic	2
Other / Unidentified	19

AGE of HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
Disconnected Youth (18-24)	52
20 years or under	12
21 to 45 years	258
46+	138
60+	35
Unknown	2

## 2019 CALVERT COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SURVEY

MARITAL STATUS of HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
Single	323
Married	43
Divorced	34
Separated	32
Widowed	11
Unknown	8

NUMBER OF PERSONS IN HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
One Person	312
Two	56
Three	51
Four	12
Five	13
Six	7

## 2019 CALVERT COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SURVEY

REASONS GIVEN BY HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS FOR HOMELESSNESS	
Family Eviction	76
Landlord Eviction	11
Domestic Violence	30
Mental Illness	56
No Money	18
Partner Eviction	5
Self Eviction	5
Lost Job	13
Natural Disaster	0
Released from Jail	20
Alcoholism/Drugs	76
Property Sold	2
Illness	0
No Affordable Housing	0
Disabled	0
Other	16
Unknown / Not Reported	232

HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS OF HOUSEHOLDS PRIOR TO HOMELESSNESS	
Rented	25
Shared	157
Owned	7
Other	38
None	34
Unknown/Not Reported	190

## 2019 CALVERT COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SURVEY

MOST RECENT ADDRESSES of CALVERT HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
Prince Frederick	171
Lusby	83
North/Chesapeake Beach	53
Huntingtown	37
St. Leonard/Port Republic	29
Dunkirk/Sunderland/Owings	15
Broomes Island	1
Solomons	4
Calvert (unspecified)	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>395</b>
ADDRESSES OF OUT- OF- COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
Charles County	10
St. Mary's County	12
Anne Arundel County	4
Prince George's County	5
Elsewhere in Maryland	10
Elsewhere in USA	8
Washington, DC	0
Virginia	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>
Address Unknown/Not Reported	6



## 2019 CALVERT COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SURVEY

TYPES OF SERVICES PROVIDED TO HOUSEHOLDS	
Food	198
Physical Shelter	170
Referral	265
Clothing	29
Transportation	92
Utilities	1
Counseling	29
Household Goods	0
Child Care	0
Medical/Prescriptions	0
Law / Courts Assistance	1
Transitional Housing	0
Hotel Money	1
Education	0
Other	4

## 2019 CALVERT COUNTY HOMELESS SERVICES SURVEY

	LENGTH OF TIME UNDUPLICATED HOUSEHOLDS STAYED IN EMERGENCY SHELTERS						
	Project ECHO	Safe Harbor	Safe Nights of Calvert County	So. Md. Community Network (Crisis House)	Calvert County DSS	Lifestyles of Southern Maryland, Inc.	TOTAL Households in Cited Stay Lengths (Duplicates between agencies removed)
1-3 days	6	10	2	6	0	1	23
4-7 days	2	5	2	3	0	1	1
8-14 days	4	1	2	8	0	1	15
15-30 days	20	2	1	9	0	3	33
31-60 days	20	4	8	7	0	1	39
61 days +	30	3	1	0	0	8	72
Unknown/NA	1	4	16	7	247	1	257
<b>TOTAL Households Served in Cited Shelters</b>	113	29	32	40	247	16	451

HOUSING OUTCOME OF HOUSEHOLDS SERVED	
Secured Housing	78
Moved in with Relatives or Friends	44
Remained Homeless	28
Other	3
Eviction Prevention	8
Unknown	290
<b>Total Households</b>	<b>451</b>